
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 210 (File 669, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF BISPHENOL-A IN THERMAL RECEIPT PAPER.

SUMMARY:

This bill prohibits the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of thermal receipt or cash register receipt paper containing bisphenol-A (BPA) in Connecticut on and after October 1, 2013, as long as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies a safe, commercially available alternative to using BPA in these papers by June 30, 2013. If no alternative is identified, then these papers may be manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or distributed in Connecticut until July 1, 2015.

The bill defines these papers as any paper a commercial entity uses to issue a mechanically produced record of a consumer transaction.

The Department of Consumer Protection commissioner may enforce these provisions, within available appropriations.

*Senate Amendment "A" allows the manufacture, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of thermal receipt and cash register receipt paper until July 1, 2015, if no safe, commercially available alternative is identified by EPA.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Bisphenol-A (BPA)

BPA is an industrial chemical used to make certain plastics and resins, such as polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. Polycarbonate plastics are often used in food and beverage containers, such as water and baby bottles. Epoxy resins can be used to coat the inside of metal

products, such as food and baby formula cans, bottle tops, and water supply lines. BPA is also found in certain thermal paper products, such as cash register receipts. Laboratory animal studies have found it to have reproductive and developmental toxicity.

Legislative History

The Senate referred the bill (File 327) to the General Law Committee, which removed a section expanding the responsibilities of the Chemical Innovations Institute to include developing a list of chemicals of “high toxic concern” and any safe alternatives to them.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21 Nay 6 (03/18/2011)

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0 (04/20/2011)